

Inside Your Third

The Newsletter for the Third Taxing District

Your Commission

David L. Brown
Chairman
Stephen M. Feinstein
Commissioner
Paul S. Coggin
Commissioner
John Mola
Treasurer
Victor J. Tenore
General Manager

2 Second Street East Norwalk, CT 06855
www.ttd.gov

Happy Holidays from the Commissioners and Employees of the Third Taxing District

Upcoming Events:

- December 6 Tree Lighting
Fitch Park
6:30
- December 9 Menorah
Lighting
Constitution
Park 7:00;
First Night of
Hanukah
- December 11 City's Master
Plan Review, East
Norwalk Sub-
Area, City Hall,
Room A300, 7:30
- December 25 Christmas
- December 31 New Year's
Eve
- January 1, 2002 New Year's
Day
Happy New
Year!
- January 15 Annual Meeting,
East Norwalk
Improvement
Association, Van
Zilen Room,
Library, Van Zant
Street, 7:30PM
- January 22 Commission
Meeting, Van
Zilen Room,
Library, Van Zant
Street, 7:00PM



Pictured, from left to right, are Stephen Feinstein, Commissioner, Ana Aguilar, Rachel Saunders, John Mola, Treasurer, Scott Marsic, Ron Scofield, Joseph Chariott, Paul Coggin, Commissioner, Timothy Lyons, Greg Goldstein, David Brown, Commissioner, and Victor Tenore. Not pictured is Ray Mitchell.

Energy Assistance Available From Many Sources

In Connecticut the Weatherization Assistance Program is available for households with annual incomes up to 150% of the federal poverty guideline (\$26,474 for a household of four). Eligibility is further prioritized for households with a member who is elderly, disabled or under six years of age.

The program is administered by the State of Connecticut, Department of Social Services (DSS). DSS contracts with five Community Action Agencies to provide the weatherization services. In Norwalk, households apply for energy assistance at the Norwalk Economic Opportunity Now, Inc. (NEON) office for energy assistance (one application for both fuel and weatherization). If determined to be eligible, and they complete a card indicating that they are interested in receiving weatherization assistance, that information is sent to Action for Bridgeport Community Development, Inc. (ABCD). ABCD is the community action agency contracted to provide weatherization services in that area. Interested households can call the Energy Services Unit's toll-free number at 1-800-842-1132 for more information.

Applications for the 2001-2002 Connecticut Energy Assistance Program will be accepted starting this month. From December until April, clients can apply for assistance with all types of fuel and energy bills, including oil, gas, electric and propane by visiting the Norwalk Economic Opportunity Now energy office at 98 South Main Street. Through April 30, 2002, the energy office will be open Monday through Friday by appointment only. For an appointment, call 899-2483. Households must apply for energy assistance to receive benefits, including those whose incomes automatically make them eligible. For more information, call Juanita Ball, Energy Coordinator, at 899-2483.

New Commissioner Takes Office

Paul Coggin of Ludlow Manor was recently elected Commissioner. He's been a resident of East Norwalk for the past 7 years.

"East Norwalk is a special place and a wonderful community. I'm honored to have been elected into public service", said Paul when interviewed. Paul's experience in engineering and finance will represent positive contributions to the District and will help build on past improvements. He earned his BS and MS degrees in engineering, holds an engineer's license and also earned an MBA in finance from Yale.

Equally important, Paul brings his experience from the business world, having been a consultant and a corporate marketing & business development professional. "Business experience and education are a help", he said, "however active community participation and

leadership are the real keys to any strong community. It also means rolling up your sleeves. I look forward to having an opportunity to work side-by-side with citizens and leaders throughout the entire community."

He acknowledged, however, that it won't be an easy task. The District faces tough challenges, including continued uncertainty with utility industry deregulation, tougher fiscal demands coupled with required investments in critical new electrical infrastructure. "With the cooperation of the other Commissioners and the Electrical Department staff we can meet these challenges - and more importantly - we can take advantage of new opportunities to build a stronger, more prosperous East Norwalk. I accept this duty and look forward to making a positive contribution."

Chairman's Message

The people have spoken. In one of the most significant elections in the City of Norwalk in recent history, the people came to the polls and said they wanted a change.

With Paul Coggin's election to the Commission and my nomination as Chairman, we have achieved a new majority. What does that mean to the District? For one, we will be taking a closer look as to how the District and the Electrical Department are being run. Following the items Paul identified during his campaign, Commissioner Coggin will spearhead attempts to improve the Electrical Department's fiscal management, to secure its bank deposits and to streamline operations to achieve cost-efficiencies. Paul brings to the table a background and experience in finance and engineering and will be a big asset to the Commission.

We've already started making progress. Since the election we've addressed several important procedural items regarding how we run our meetings. For example, there were several Freedom of Information issues that were inadvertently over-

looked by prior Commissions that we are fixing so as to keep you, the ratepayer, better informed of decisions made by your Commissioners. As a matter of policy we will be more forthright about the announcing of regular monthly meetings and the posting of agendas, including making these available on our website at www.ttd.gov, and announcing meeting dates in the newspaper. None of these were done in the past. Also as a matter of policy we will have minutes of the previous meeting available within seven days for anyone who wants to read them at the District office. And our phone numbers will once again be displayed on our stationery and business cards.

We work for you. You elected us to be your leaders, to be your voice in the administration of the District. We welcome your suggestions and participation. All of the regular monthly Commission meetings are open to the public, please make a note of the schedule and get involved if you have the opportunity.

Thank you.